

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 VIENNA 08708 221654Z

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 237

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T VIENNA 8708

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: KEEPING NEUTRALS INFORMED

FROM US REP MBFR

REF: USNATO 4998

1. AS WASHINGTON AGENCIES AND USNATO ARE AWARE, MEMBERS OF AD HOC GROUP ARE DELIBERATELY INCLUDING REFERENCES TO THE INTERESTS OF OTHER EUROPEAN STATES IN OPENING STATEMENTS AND TO THEIR WILLINGNESS TO BRIEF EUROPEAN NEUTRALS BILATERALLY IN MATERIAL PREPARED FOR PRESS BACKGROUNDEERS (VIENNA 8581), AS WELL AS IN MATERIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THEMES.

2. IN THE INTEREST OF MAINTAINING GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH NEUTRALS AND BUILDING EFFECTIVE DEFENSIVE POSITION AGAINST AN ANTICIPATED SOVIET EFFORT TO RAISE ENLARGEMENT ISSUE IN SOME WAY AT THE OUTSET OF THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS, WE THINK THAT AN INFORMED SYSTEM OF INFORMING NEUTRALS WOULD LEND SUBSTANCE TO THESE
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PAGE 02 VIENNA 08708 221654Z

STATEMENTS AND TO THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE ALLIED PO-

SITION. WE BELIEVE THAT BEST APPROACH MIGHT BE FOR INDIVIDUAL AD HOC GROUP MEMBERS TO VOLUNTEER TO TAKE CARE OF AN INDIVIDUAL NEUTRAL. FOR EXAMPLE, FRG MIGHT INFORM YUGOSLAVS, ETC. VOLUNTEERING MEMBER OF AD HOC GROUP COULD CONTACT LOCAL EMBASSY OF EUROPEAN NEUTRAL STATE CONCERNED, STATE WILLINGNESS TO KEEP EMBASSY INFORMED OF COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS, POINTING OUT AT THE SAME TIME THAT THIS CONTACT WOULD NOT PRECLUDE CONTACTS BETWEEN THAT EMBASSY AND ANY OTHER ALLIED DELEGATION.

3. WE BELIEVE DETAILS AS TO WHO SHOULD TAKE THIS ACTION SHOULD BE LEFT TO AD HOC GROUP WHERE WE CAN PREPARE GROUND FOR SELECTIONS OF INDIVIDUAL DELS TO DO BRIEFING IN ADVANCE. TO TRY TO MAKE FORMAL DECISION ON THIS SUBJECT IN BRUSSELS COULD RAISE DIFFICULT PARTICIPATION PROBLEM. IF USNATO CONSIDERS THAT A FORMAL DECISION BY NATO ON THIS GENERAL SUBJECT IS NECESSARY NOW THAT UK HAS RAISED IT IN SPC, WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT COUNCIL MERELY APPROVE THE PRINCIPLE OF KEEPING NEUTRALS INFORMED AND DELEGATE THE TASK TO AD HOC GROUP.
HUMES

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